

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senator Portman delivered Washington’s Farewell Address.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S751–S792

Measures Introduced: Introduced on Friday, February 19, 2021 during the adjournment: One resolution, as follows: S. Res. 63. **Page S769**

Twenty-six bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 331–356, and S. Res. 64–69. **Pages S770–71**

Measures Reported:

Reported on Friday, February 19, during the adjournment:

S. Res. 63, authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Finance.

Reported on Monday, February 22:

S. Res. 64, authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. Res. 65, authorizing expenditures by the Special Committee on Aging.

S. Res. 66, authorizing expenditures by the Committee on the Budget.

S. Res. 69, authorizing expenditures by the Committee on the Judiciary. **Pages S769–70**

Washington’s Farewell Address: Senator Portman performed the traditional reading of Washington’s Farewell Address. **Pages S751–55**

Thomas-Greenfield Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of the Ambassador, and the Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations. **Pages S756, S757–60**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 75 yeas to 20 nays (Vote No. EX. 60), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S760**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Tuesday, February

23, 2021; that at 11:30 a.m., all post-cloture time on the nomination be considered expired and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, at 2:15 p.m., Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Thomas J. Vilsack, of Iowa, to be Secretary of Agriculture, with 20 minutes for debate as provided under the previous order of Saturday, February 13, 2021; that upon the use or yielding back of that time, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of Thomas J. Vilsack; that upon disposition of the nomination of Thomas J. Vilsack, and if cloture has been invoked on the nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield. **Page S760**

Granholm Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Jennifer Mulhern Granholm, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Energy. **Pages S756–57**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Wednesday, February 24, 2021. **Page S757**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S756**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S756**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Jewel Hairston Bronaugh, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Andrea Joan Palm, of Wisconsin, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Jennifer Ann Abruzzo, of New York, to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board for a term of four years.

James Richard Kvaal, of Massachusetts, to be Under Secretary of Education.

Cynthia Minette Marten, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Education.

Deanne Bennett Criswell, of New York, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

Richard A. Sauber, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

26 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

30 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy, and Space Force.

Pages S775–92

Messages from the House: Page S770

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S771–72

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S772–75

Additional Statements:

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S775

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—60) Page S760

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:18 p.m., until 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 23, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S775.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: On Thursday, February 11, 2021, Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee and rules of procedure for the 117th Congress.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: On Saturday, February 13, 2021, Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 117th Congress.

NOMINATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee began consideration of the nomination of Merrick Brian Garland, of Maryland, to be Attorney General, Department of Justice, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Van Hollen and Duckworth, testified and answered questions in his own behalf, but did not complete action thereon.

Hearing recessed subject to the call and will meet again at 10 a.m., on Tuesday, February 23, 2021.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution entitled, "Omnibus Committee Funding", and rules of procedure for the 117th Congress.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 17 public bills, H.R. 1192–1,208; and 5 resolutions, H. Res. 141–145 were introduced. Pages H548–H549

Additional Cosponsors: Page H550

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Select Committee on the Climate Crisis—Appointment: The Speaker announced her appointment of the following Members to the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis: Representative Castor (FL), Chair; Representatives Bonamici, Brownley, Huffman, McEachin, Levin (CA), Casten, Neguse, Escobar, and Graves (LA). Page H541

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress—Appointment: The Speaker announced her appointment of the following Members to the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress: Representative Kilmer, Chair; Representatives Lofgren, Cleaver, Perlmutter, Phillips, Williams (GA), Timmons, Rodney Davis (IL), Latta, Reschenthaler, and Van Duyne. Page H541

Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis—Appointment: The Speaker announced her appointment of the following Members to the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis: Representative Clyburn of South Carolina, Chair; Representatives

Waters, Carolyn B. Maloney (NY), Velázquez, Foster, Raskin, Krishnamoorthi, Scalise, Jordan, Green (TN), and Malliotakis. **Page H541**

Governing Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics—Appointment: The Speaker announced her appointment of the following individuals to serve as the Governing Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics: Nominated by the Speaker after consultation with the Minority Leader: Mr. David Skaggs of Colorado, Chair; Brigadier General (retired) Belinda Pinckney of Virginia; Ms. Karan English, of Arizona; and Mr. Mike Barnes of Maryland, alternate. Nominated by the Minority Leader after consultation with the Speaker: Mr. Paul D. Vinovich of the District of Columbia, Co-Chair; Mr. Leon Acton of Westmoreland, Georgia; Ms. Karen L. Haas of Maryland; and Mr. Robert Hurt of Virginia, alternate. **Page H541**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in remembrance of the over 500,000 Americans who have passed away from the COVID-19 virus. **Pages H541-42**

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 11:30 a.m. and adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a markup on a bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2021, S. Con. Res. 5. The bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2021, S. Con. Res. 5 was ordered reported, without amendment.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine emerging technologies and their impact on national security, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the Semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress, 10 a.m., WEBEX.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Debra Anne Haaland, of New Mexico, to be Secretary of the Interior, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Adewale O. Adeyemo, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Xavier Becerra, of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: with the Committee on Rules and Administration, to hold a joint hearing to examine the January 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Merrick Brian Garland, of Maryland, to be Attorney General, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Rules and Administration: with the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, to hold a joint hearing to examine the January 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SD-106.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, oversight hearing on the Internal Revenue Service, 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Cyber, Innovative Technologies, and Information Systems, hearing entitled “Innovation Opportunities and Vision for the Science and Technology Enterprise”, 11 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled “Near-Peer Advancements in Space and Nuclear Weapons”, 3 p.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Pathway to Protection: Expanding Availability of COVID-19 Vaccines”, 10:30 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled “Revitalizing the Federal Workforce”, 11 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 803, the “Colorado Wilderness Act of 2021”; and H.R. 5, the “Equality Act”, 2 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled “Building Back Better: The Urgent Need for Investment in America’s Wastewater Infrastructure”, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Webex.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of February 23 through February 26, 2021

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of the Ambassador, and the Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of that nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations.

At approximately 2:15 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Thomas J. Vilsack, of Iowa, to be Secretary of Agriculture.

Following disposition of the nomination of Thomas J. Vilsack, and if cloture has been invoked on the nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Armed Services: February 23, to hold hearings to examine emerging technologies and their impact on national security, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

February 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine Department of Defense support to the COVID-19 response, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: February 23, to hold hearings to examine the Semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress, 10 a.m., WEBEX.

February 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the coronavirus crisis, focusing on next steps for rebuilding Main Street, 9:30 a.m., WEBEX.

Committee on the Budget: February 24, business meeting to consider the nomination of Neera Tanden, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Time to be announced, S-207, Capitol.

February 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine poverty wages at large profitable corporations, 10:15 a.m., SD-608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: February 25, business meeting to consider subcommittee assignments, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: February 23, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Debra Anne Haaland, of New Mexico, to be Secretary of the Interior, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: February 24, to hold hearings to examine investing in transportation while addressing climate change, improving equity, and fostering economic growth and innovation, 10:15 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Finance: February 23, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Adewale O. Adeyemo, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, 10 a.m., SD-215.

February 24, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Xavier Becerra, of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, 2 p.m., SD-106.

February 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Katherine C. Tai, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: February 23, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Xavier Becerra, of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD-430.

February 25, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Vivek Hallegere Murthy, of Florida, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, and Rachel Leland Levine, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: February 23, with the Committee on Rules and Administration, to hold a joint hearing to examine the January 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

February 24, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nomination of Neera Tanden, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and committee rules of procedure for the 117th Congress, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: February 24, to hold hearings to examine native communities' priorities in focus for the 117th Congress, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: February 23, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Merrick Brian Garland, of Maryland, to be Attorney General, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Rules and Administration: February 23, with the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, to hold a joint hearing to examine the January 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: February 24, business meeting to consider the nomination of Isabella Casillas Guzman, of California, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration, 2:30 p.m., SD-215.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: February 24, to hold hearings to examine vaccines for vets, focusing on ending the COVID-19 pandemic, 4 p.m., SD-G50.

Select Committee on Intelligence: February 23, to hold hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SD-106.

February 24, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of William Joseph Burns, of Maryland, to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency; to be immediately followed by a closed hearing in SVC-217, 10 a.m., SR-301.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, February 25, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Climate Change and the U.S. Agriculture and Forestry Sectors", 12:30 p.m., 1300 Longworth and Webex.

Committee on Appropriations, February 24, Subcommittee on Defense, hearing entitled "Future Defense Spending", 9:30 a.m., Webex.

February 24, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, budget hearing on the Judiciary, 10 a.m., Webex.

February 24, Subcommittee on the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "Ready or Not: U.S. Public Health Infrastructure", 10 a.m., Webex.

February 24, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, hearing entitled "Health and Wellness of Employees and State of Damage and Preservation as a Result of the January 6 Insurrection", 10 a.m., Webex.

February 25, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, oversight hearing on the Office of Inspector General, Department of Agriculture, 10 a.m., Webex.

February 25, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, hearing entitled "U.S. Capitol Police and House Sergeant at Arms, Security Failures on January 6", 10 a.m., Webex.

February 25, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "Strategies for Energy and Climate Innovation", 2 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, February 24, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled "Fanning the Flames: Disinformation and Extremism in the Media", 12:30 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Ethics, February 25, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 3 p.m., 1015 Longworth and Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, February 24, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Monetary Policy and the State of the Economy", 10 a.m., Webex.

February 24, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "How Invidious Discrimination Works and Hurts: An Examination of Lending Discrimination and Its Long-term Economic Impacts on Borrowers of Color", 3 p.m., Webex.

February 25, Subcommittee on National Security, International Development, and Monetary Policy, hearing entitled "Dollars against Democracy: Domestic Terrorist

Financing in the Aftermath of Insurrection", 10 a.m., Webex.

February 25, Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship and Capital Markets, hearing entitled "The Challenge of Our Time: Climate Change, the Capital Markets, and Sustainable Investment", 2 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, February 24, Full Committee, hearing entitled "America Forward: Restoring Diplomacy and Development in a Fracturing World", 1:30 p.m., Webex.

February 25, Full Committee, markup on legislation on Department of State Authorization Act of 2021; legislation on Cyber Diplomacy Act; H. Res. 124, supporting the people of Belarus and their democratic aspirations and condemning the election rigging and subsequent violent crackdowns on peaceful protesters by the illegitimate Lukashenka regime; H.R. 241, the "Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2021"; legislation on Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership Act; legislation on condemning the continued violation of rights and freedoms of the people of Hong Kong by the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region; legislation on condemning the military coup that took place on February 1, 2021, in Burma and the Burmese military detention of civilian leaders, calling for the release of all those detained and for those elected to serve in Parliament to resume their duties, and for other purposes; legislation on Protect Democracy in Burma Act of 2021; legislation on reaffirming the importance of upholding democracy, human rights, and the rule of law in United States foreign policy; and legislation on emphasizing the importance and interdependence of diplomacy and international development to American interests and national security, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Homeland Security, February 24, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Confronting the Coronavirus: Perspectives on the COVID-19 Pandemic One Year Later", 9:30 a.m., Webex.

Committee on House Administration, February 25, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Strengthening American Democracy", 4 p.m., Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary, February 24, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, hearing entitled "The Need for New Lower Court Judgeships, 30 Years in the Making", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Webex.

February 24, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing entitled "The Rise of Domestic Terrorism in America", 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn and Webex.

February 25, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law, hearing entitled "Reviving Competition, Part 1: Proposals to Address Gatekeeper Power and Lower Barriers to Entry Online", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, February 24, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Legislative Proposals to Put the Postal Service on Sustainable Financial Footing", 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Webex.

February 26, Full Committee; and Full Committee of the House Committee on Homeland Security, joint hearing entitled “Weathering the Storm: The Role of Private Tech in the SolarWinds Breach and the Ongoing Campaign”, 9 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, February 25, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Building Back the U.S. Research Enterprise: COVID Impacts and Recovery”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Small Business, February 24, Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations, hearing

entitled “Perspectives from Main Street: Raising the Wage”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, February 24, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing entitled “Examining Equity in Transportation Safety Enforcement”, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Ways and Means, February 26, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “The Path Forward on COVID–19 Immunizations”, 2 p.m., Webex.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 23

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of the Ambassador, and the Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of that nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations.

At approximately 2:15 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Thomas J. Vilsack, of Iowa, to be Secretary of Agriculture.

Following disposition of the nomination of Thomas J. Vilsack, and if cloture has been invoked on the nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon.

(Senate will recess following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 p.m., Tuesday, February 23

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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